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## Committee Favorably Recommends First Granholm Appointment

## Hollister receives bipartisan support; Senate to consider appointment on Jan. 21

LANSING – In the first advice and consent hearing of a gubernatorial appointee in nearly a decade, the Senate Committee on Government Operations today unanimously recommended that Lansing Mayor David C. Hollister be confirmed as the director of the Michigan Department of Consumer and Industry Services.

"I think Mayor Hollister is an excellent choice and I want to congratulate Governor Granholm on her selection of him," Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema said today. "There may be times when we disagree on specific issues, but I know Mayor Hollister shares the Senate's goal of creating good-paying jobs, expanding Michigan's economy and improving the quality of life for all residents."

Tuesday's committee meeting was the first advice and consent hearing to occur in the Michigan Senate in nearly a decade. The committee will meet again Wednesday to consider Governor Granholm's appointment of Treasurer Jay Rising. The Michigan Constitution gives the state Senate the power to offer advice and consent on gubernatorial appointments of agency directors and numerous members of state boards and commissions.

Sikkema, R-Wyoming, said the tenor of today's hearing – a bipartisan setting where Republican and Democrat senators were able to question Hollister on a variety of policy issues – will set the tone for all subsequent advice and consent hearings.

"The advice and consent process has been very productive," Sikkema said. "The questions Mayor Hollister answered gave committee members and the public an opportunity to hear firsthand his thoughts on how to make Michigan competitive and the role economic development would play in the Granholm Administration."

Sikkema said the entire Senate will take up the committee's recommendation on Hollister's appointment when it next convenes on Jan. 21.